

# ORWELL ROLLS IN HIS GRAVE

— DVD REVIEW —

“Orwell Rolls in his Grave,” written and directed by Robert Kane Pappas, is an independent media expose’ on the power, process, and abuse of the mainstream media. The film looks at the media landscape through the rubric of George Orwell’s *1984* and *Animal Farm*.

Covering an impressively large breadth of political issues, “Orwell Rolls in His Grave” expressively demonstrates the intricate connections between the media and the powerful, and their effects on journalism in a democratic system. In example after example, the movie lays out the philosophy and actions that have enfeebled the mainstream media. The movie follows such issues as the Iran-Contra scandal, the 2000 elections, and the war on terror.

With interviews from producers of such news outlets as ABC, CNN, and 60 Minutes, “Orwell Rolls in His Grave” offers up the story you will never see on the evening news—how our media has been abused to serve a corporate elite.

“What you want in a media system is an ostensible diversity that conceals an actual conformity.”

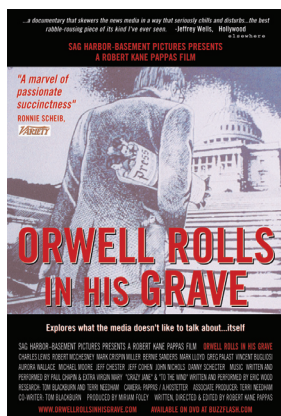
— Joseph Goebbels, *Minister of Propaganda, Nazi Germany* —

MSC A Voice of Reason will be presenting a free screening at the Saccomanno Lecture Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday, October 26th. There will be a community discussion after the film on ramifications and possible mediation of today’s rampant media problems. •

## DOCUMENTARIES FOR CHANGE

Wednesday, October 26, 2005 • 7:30PM

Orwell Rolls In His Grave  
Saccomanno Lecture Hall



# State of Disunion

NUMBER OF  
CONSECUTIVE  
YEARS

that China has jailed more reporters than any other nation:  
6

PERCENT OF ASIAN AMERICANS

whose primary source of news is not in English:  
25

PERCENT of Arab Americans whose primary source of news is not in English:  
40

NUMBER OF SUSPECTS

killed or captured that were reported by the US media to be Al-Qaeda’s number three man:  
4

MINIMUM NUMBER

of times the music video “George Bush Don’t Like Black People” has been downloaded:  
500,000

NUMBER OF RADIO STATIONS owned by Clear Channel nationwide:  
1426

NUMBER OF INDY MEDIA CENTERS worldwide:  
135

PERCENT of the voting public that ‘regularly’ get their news from Talk Radio:  
20

NUMBER OF YEARS that Project Censored has published the 20 most censored stories of the year:  
29

NUMBER OF PRESS CONFERENCES where President Bush accused a journalist of asking a “trick question”:  
11

## CALL TO ACTION

The Red Pill is looking for volunteers: graphic designers, writers, poets, cartoonists, artists, and photographers are needed. Get your work published now. Help distribute The Red Pill in your community, church, and school: contact us at [editor@gjredpill.org](mailto:editor@gjredpill.org). You can also do your part to keep us in print by donating time, paper, film, copies, and of course money (it doesn’t print itself).



The Red Pill is produced by Grand Junction Alternative Media, with the aim of publishing stories and ideas that the mainstream media won’t cover. It is distributed free, collects no advertising, and is completely staffed by volunteers. All materials are copyleft, no rights are reserved. **PHOTOCOPY AND DISTRIBUTE AT WILL!**

IF YOU WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH TAKE

GRAND JUNCTION,  
COLORADO

# The Red Pill



BE THE

MEDIA

OCTOBER 2005

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# media

# issue

## HIGHTOWER: AMERICAN AGITATOR

In October 8th, Jim Hightower was the keynote speaker at Western Colorado Congress’s annual meeting. Hightower, a Texan progressive, is a force in the alternative media world. His daily two minute radio spot, Hightower Radio, reaches millions of people daily on a network of community radio stations. His monthly political newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown, is the most popular political newsletter in country with more than 125,000 subscribers. He is also a best-selling author. The Red Pill was able to sit down with Jim Hightower and ask him a few questions about his career in alternative media and the importance of alternative media in this country today.

Hightower was raised and went to school in Texas, where he studied Political Science, English, and Marketing. For eleven years, he worked on various political causes in Washington D.C and New York City. During that time, he gained valuable political experience and published a number of articles. “I came to alternative media almost out of necessity,” Hightower said. In ’76 Hightower returned to Texas to become the editor of The Texas Observer, one of the pioneering papers of the modern alternative media movement.

The Texas Observer was founded in 1954 as part of a progressive movement in Texas that worked closely with unions and registering black voters. “Remember that Texas was a one-party state at the time, so we were battling the Democrats,” Hightower said.

After two-and-a-half-years, Hightower took “the only downward career move that one can make from journalism, and ran for Agriculture Commissioner.” Hightower was Texas Ag Commissioner until 1991.

Hightower Radio started in 1993 and continues to this day. Locally it can be heard on 99.1 KVNF. His newsletter started in 1998 with the help of Phillip Frazer of the Washington Specter. “There were many nay-sayers,” Hightower said, “but we paid back the loans in 6 months.”

**HIGHTOWER ON NEXT PAGE**

## ALTERNATIVE MUSIC VIDEO ROCKS INTERNET

Less than a week after Hurricane Katrina hit the gulf coast, a hip hop song by Legendary K.O began circulating on the internet. By the week’s end the song, “George Bush Don’t Like Black People,” had been downloaded hundreds of thousands of times. The immediacy of the lyrics, which vividly describe the chaos in New Orleans, is a re-mix of Kanye West’s hit song “Gold Digger.”

“Five days in this motherfuckin’ attic,  
Can’t use the cell-phone I keep gettin’ static  
...other day the helicopters got  
my neighbors off the roof  
that was cool, cause they said  
their comin’ back for us too  
that was three days ago,  
I don’t see no rescue.”

Not long after the song was released, radical film maker Franklin Lopez was at a BBQ talking about Katrina when a friend turned him on to

**LOPEZ ON NEXT PAGE**



radical film maker, FRANKLIN LOPEZ



## LOPEZ FROM LAST PAGE

the song. "I picked up the phone at the party and called a friend, who's a cable news junkie, and had him start recording Katrina coverage," Lopez said in a phone interview with The Red Pill. A week later, the video was released on the web. "I'm glad it took off. First off, the song was fantastic," Lopez said. Since being released in mid-September, the song has been downloaded 450,000 times from imovies.com alone. "We can't know how many times the video has been downloaded. So many sites have picked it up," Franklin said. The success of the song and video illustrates the power of alternative media. "The American attention span is so short that it would have forgotten in a couple of weeks what went down in New Orleans," Lopez added.

Franklin Lopez's last two short films have met with a good deal of success. "Why I Love Shoplifting From Big Corporations" and "Join the Resistance; Fall in Love," are adapted from the anarchist novel "Days of War; Nights of Love." Lopez's films, including the music video "George Bush Don't Like Black People," can be downloaded from his web-site, [www.submedia.tv](http://www.submedia.tv).

## HIGHTOWER FROM LAST PAGE

The genius of newsletters is that magazines pile-up and don't get read. The Lowdown is only 4 pages a month, \$10 a year, it just took off. It became a movement."

Hightower ended the interview with some advice for The Red Pill. "Develop and nurture your sense of humor; it will get you places you wouldn't get without it. And remember, the pamphleteers helped start this country, and they'll help save it." •



alternative media moulg, JIM HIGHTOWER

## ACLU FILES; DOC REINSTATES KOSHER MEALS

In Tuesday, October 11th, the ACLU filed a lawsuit on behalf of Tim Sheline, an Orthodox Jewish inmate at the Trinidad Correctional Facility in the United States District Court in Denver. The lawsuit states, Sheline's kosher diet was revoked for placing two packets of butter and salad dressing in his pocket, a minor dining hall rule violation. The ACLU contends, in the lawsuit, that the diet-revocation provisions violates the right of prisoners to freedom of religion and due process of law. The lawsuit also alleges that the Colorado Dept. of Corrections denied Sheline his due process by mishandling their own grievance procedures.

On Wednesday, the day after the lawsuit was filed, DOC re-instated Sheline's kosher diet. According to Mark Silverstien, legal director of the ACLU of Colorado, "The lawsuit also challenges the DOC regulation that authorizes DOC officials to revoke prisoners' right to a religious diet for unjustifiable reasons and without due process. Today's action was a good first step, but problems with the DOC regulation remain unresolved."

In an exclusive interview with The Red Pill, Tim Sheline expressed his relief that he is now being fed kosher meals again. Sheline said, "Wednesday, I was working outside the fence when a Captain pulled up and told me to go see Cpt. Peachee (the Food Services Manager). She said, 'I have good news for you, we've reinstated your diet.'" Sheline continued "I feel like I've gotten something done, but there's more work to do on the other problems."

In the last year, at Trinidad correctional facility, at least five Jewish inmates have been taken off their kosher diets. So far, Sheline has been the only one reinstated. Jewish inmates are still unable to worship in a secured area. Jewish inmates have had a difficult time getting any religious information or materials inside the prison walls. Inmates also report being subjected to anti-Semitic remarks by prison staff.

Sheline, who has lost over 30 pounds while remaining kosher by purchasing food off of the canteen, mostly peanut butter and saltines, had this to say about his five-month ordeal: "There were days I was so hungry I wanted to cry." •

### Every Sunday • 6PM

Weekly Vegan Dinner. We'll cook the main dish. Please bring a vegan side dish, dessert or drink. Dinner starts around 6:30PM. *The Confluence Collective (1450 Elm).*



### October

is World Hunger Month  
MSC International Relations Club is  
sponsoring a number of events.

For more info call:  
248-1707

## TOP TEN CENSORED STORIES OF 2004 – 2005

Big business controls the large media outlets. On a regular basis, these multi-national corporations have their news divisions bury or ignore stories that they have interests in. The American people have sensed for years that something was going wrong with our free press, but are unsure of what exactly has been going on. This is where Project Censored comes in.

Project Censored, out of Sonoma State University (in California), every year, publishes a book listing the most under reported or censored stories of the year. They have been doing so for the past 29 years, and the list for *Project Censored 2006* is as surreal as any other list they have compiled. Below are the top ten censored stories, with just a few brief comments about each of them. Go to their website, [www.projectcensored.org](http://www.projectcensored.org) to get the full stories, with details. You should also pick-up a copy of this well documented, eye-opening book that has been on the shelves for about a month.

**1 Bush administration moves to eliminate open government** Over the last four years, the Feds have sought to restrict the public's right to know by limiting the scope and application of Freedom of Information Act requests and exempting whole departments from public scrutiny. Considering the media's inherent interest in safeguarding open-record laws, it is amazing this story didn't get any air time.

**2 Media coverage fails on Iraq: Fallujah and the civilian death toll** The media blackout in regards to Iraq has distorted and hidden the real cost of the war. Credible studies indicate that the Iraqi death toll for the invasion and occupation of Iraq exceeds 100,000 deaths. The massive assaults on Fallujah in April and November of 2004 included the use of phosphorus bombs and the indiscriminate targeting of civilians.

**3 Another year of distorted election coverage** Officially, Bush won the presidency by 3 million votes. Exit polls showed Kerry winning by 5 million votes. This gap of 8 million is unprecedented. Strangely, the discrepancies were greater in swing states and black precincts.

**4 Surveillance society quietly moves in** On Dec. 13 2003, the day US troops captured Saddam Hussein, Bush privately signed into law the Intelligence Authorization Act. The IAA expands powers granted by the Patriot Act. The Feds can now obtain anyone's financial records without a court order. Good-bye Fourth Amendment.

**5 U.S. uses tsunami to military advantage in Southeast Asia** After the tsunami in the Indian Ocean, Americans came together to offer aid to

those in need. On the other hand, our government initially offered a paltry sum of 15 million dollars in aid, and used the crisis to add more military bases in Southeastern Asia, including the reopening of the Utapao military base in Thailand and renewed cooperation with the corrupt Indonesian military.

**6 The real oil-for-food scam** The right-wingers made a big deal about 10 billion dollars worth of oil that had been smuggled out under the UN Oil for Food program. But what wasn't in the debate was that the vast majority of the UN ships enforcing the embargo were American vessels. Also, that corrupt deals between Russian and American oil companies ensured that 80% of the smuggled oil made it to market in the USA.

**7 Journalists face unprecedented dangers to life and livelihood** This last year has been the deadliest year on record for journalists with more than 129 media workers killed. 49 of them were killed in Iraq. To date, US authorities have not disciplined a single officer or soldier involved in the killing of a journalist.

**8 Iraqi farmers threatened by Bremer's mandate** Order 81 of over 100 Orders penned by Paul Bremer, US administrator of Iraq, sets criteria for the patenting of seeds which can only be met by large multi-national agri-corps like Monsanto and Syngenta. Iraq is the birth place of agriculture and now with a stroke of the pen it became a mere subsidiary in America's supply chain.

**9 Iran's new oil trade system challenges US currency** The Bush administration is keeping a close eye on Iran and its concern is not Iran's nuclear program, but rather Iran's declared intent to open an international oil exchange, or 'bourse.' This new entity would compete directly with the New York Mercantile Exchange and London's International Petroleum Exchange. It also would threaten the US dollar by trading oil in euros. This move would cause global demand for the dollar to disappear, and the dollar would collapse.

**10 Mountaintop removal threatens ecosystem and economy** Mountaintop removal is a coal mining technique in which areas of rich bio-diversity "are being turned into the biological equivalent of parking lots," said John Conner of the Katuah branch of Earth First!, which has been putting all their efforts into direct action campaigns to block projects throughout Appalachia.

There are many more examples of this insanity in the Project Censored Book, or on it's website. Read it and you will be changed.

### Wednesday, November 9, 2005 • 7:30PM

MSC A Voice of Reason's Documentaries for Change  
Film Series will be screening  
"The World According to Bush"  
at the Saccomanno Lecture Hall.

### Friday, November 25, 2005

Buy Nothing Day  
Participate by not participating.



## I HEAR STORIES

I hear stories:  
I hear people telling me that I'm too crazy!  
That I'm too paranoid!  
"We don't like to talk about that issue so you  
shouldn't either."  
And, why should I listen to you,  
I have FOX News."

I see this happen:  
"That can't be true."  
to "They must be making it up!"  
to "Is this really happening?"  
to "This is really happening!"  
to "Oh my God!"  
to "Those Bastards!"

I hear stories:  
"You can't do this."  
"Literature, like this lie pedaling' small town rag,  
should not be made."  
"There is no room for stuff like this."  
"NO ROOM!"

NO ROOM? WHAT THE FUCK!  
I don't need room.  
I take up no room.  
What are you thinking!  
LISTEN TO YOURSELVES.

I HEAR STORIES, BECAUSE I AM A VOICE:  
AND I'M GETTING STRONGER!  
I'M GETTING LOUDER!  
AND PEOPLE ARE LISTENING!

I'M AN IDEA  
I'M A MEME  
I'M A FELLOW CITIZEN  
A VIEW POINT  
AND I'M NAMED THE RED PILL!  
I'm here. I'm for real.  
Someone has created me and they  
stand behind me.  
SO I'M NOT MOVING.  
I'M GOING TO OUTLAST EVEN YOU!  
I'M IN PRINT!

PEOPLE (AND I MEAN YOU)  
STILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO THINK!

I don't stand-alone:  
I stand with, "We the People."  
And, "I Have a Dream."  
I stand with, "Bread and Roses."  
And, "Fuck the Draft."

I remember:  
I remember a time when soldiers died for me,  
AND NOT FOR OIL!  
I remember when I was the reason the  
United States was so important.  
I'm here to preserve that dream.  
I talk, so the genesis of this country can live!

MAYBE THEY (AND I MEAN THEM)  
SHOULD WORK ON MAKING ME  
SILENT.  
HEY, WORK ON AMENDMENT ONE  
IN PATRIOT ACT III.  
I HAVE SEEN AMENDMENT FOUR AND  
HABEAS CORPUS FALL.

--- IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE WE CARE  
ENOUGH ABOUT IDEAS TO MISS  
AMENDMENT ONE THAT MUCH! ---

And when AMENDMENT ONE is no more  
THEN YOU WILL WAKE UP,  
LOOK AROUND,  
And WONDER WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED!

¡THINK!  
QUESTION EVERYTHING  
Even Me

And remember,  
I hear stories, I think, I act, AND I,

I write shit down...

# culture jammin' in gj



Wednesday, October 26, 2005 • 7:30PM  
MSC A Voice of Reason's  
Documentaries for Change Film Series  
will be screening "Orwell Rolls in His Grave"  
at the Saccomanno Lecture Hall.

Tuesday, November 1, 2005  
Last day to mail in ballots for the fall elections.

October 24 – 28, 2005  
A Voice of Reason will be participating in the 100,000  
Rings Project. Join in this global call for peace.  
Call Karen at 210-8580 or gvpeace@acsol.net  
Bells will ring from noon to 1pm.

Wednesday, October 26, 2005 • 6PM  
A Fair Trade group meets at the *Confluence Collective*  
(1450 Elm), to work for community solutions to Free  
Trade, both internationally and locally.

